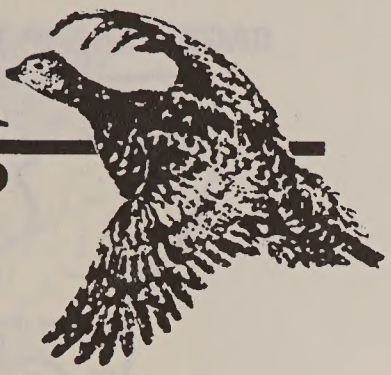
MONTANA

1988 UPLAND GAME BIRD

HUNTING REGULATIONS



General Regulations

Licenses—The following licenses are available at all Fish, Wildlife and Parks offices and most license agents throughout the state.

	Res.	Nonres.
Conservation (required prerequisite*)	$2.00	$ 2.00
Upland Game Bird (required prerequisite for turkey*)	$6.00	$53.00
Fall Season Turkey	$3.00	$13.00

*The resident Sportsman's License and the nonresident Big Game Combination License and the nonresident Deer Combination License, include both a conservation and bird license.

Landowner Sponsored Deer Combination License holders may hunt upland game birds only on the landowner sponsor's property.

Montana residents 12-14 years of age, 62 and older or holders of a Disabled Resident Conservation License need only a conservation license to hunt all upland game birds, except turkey. Persons under 12 years of age may not hunt upland game birds.

All Sportsmen 12-17 years of age must show proof of successfully completing a state-sponsored course in the safe handling of firearms prior to purchasing a hunting license.

Possession Limits—Sharptailed grouse, sage grouse, partridge, mountain grouse and pheasant are **FOUR** times the daily bag.

Avoid Violations of the Law—It is illegal to shoot any game bird on, from, or across any public highway, or the shoulder, berm, or borrow-pit, or right-of-way of any public highway in the State of Montana and/or from an automobile or other self-propelled vehicle.

Checking Stations—All Sportsmen are required to stop as directed at all designated check stations on their way to and from hunting and fishing areas, even if they have no game or fish to be checked.

Shooting Hours—Authorized shooting hours for the taking of upland game birds begin one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset each day of the hunting season. See official Sunrise-sunset tables in these regulations.

Wanton Waste—It is illegal to waste any part of any game animal, game bird, or game fish suitable for food. Following are game bird parts "suitable for food":

All birds that fall into the size category of the partridge or smaller, only the breasts must be retained.

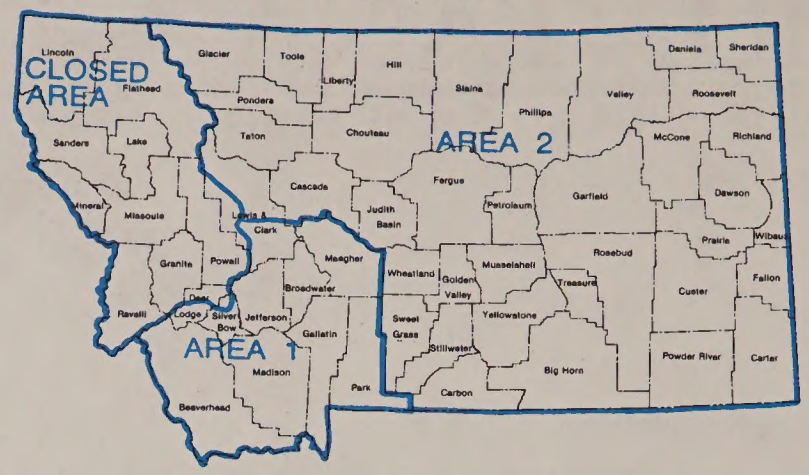
All birds larger than a partridge up to the size category of, and including, pheasants and sage grouse, the breasts and the thighs must be retained.

All turkeys, the breasts, thighs and wings must be retained.

By order of the Montana Fish and Game Commission, the seasons, limits and regulations listed herein shall govern the 1988 Upland Game Bird hunting seasons. These regulations are valid March 1, 1988, through February 28, 1989, and were adopted by the Fish and Game Commission on June 23, 1988. **Montana Fish and Game Commission; James W. Flynn, Secretary—June 23, 1988.**

For the convenience of the general public, listed herein are partial regulations governing the 1988 Falconry and Mourning Dove seasons. Complete regulations may be obtained from any Fish, Wildlife and Parks office.

SAGE & SHARP-TAILED GROUSE



AREA 1

That part of Montana lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at the junction of the Continental Divide and the Montana-Idaho border at Lost Trail Pass (on Montana Highway 43), then north-easterly along the Continental Divide to the headwaters of Lyons Creek in T15N-R6W, then southeasterly down the north fork and main Lyons Creek and Little Prickly Pear Creek to the Missouri River, then up river to Beaver Creek, then easterly up Beaver Creek to the Meagher County line, then northerly, easterly and southerly along the Meagher County line to the Sweetgrass County line, then easterly along the north boundary and southerly along the east boundary of Sweetgrass County to the Park County line, then westerly and southerly along the Park County line to the Wyoming border, then westerly and northerly along the Montana-Wyoming and Montana-Idaho borders to the point of beginning.

AREA 2

That part of Montana lying east and north of the following boundary: Beginning at the Continental Divide and the U.S.-Canadian border, then south along the Divide to the headwaters of Lyons Creek in T15N-R6W, then down the north fork and main Lyons Creek and Little Prickly Pear Creek, to the Missouri River, then up river to Beaver Creek, then easterly up Beaver Creek to the Meagher County line, then northerly, easterly and southerly along the Meagher County line to the Sweetgrass County line, then easterly along the north boundary and southerly along the east boundary of Sweetgrass County to the Park County line, then southerly along the east boundary of the Park County line to the Montana-Wyoming border, then east, north and west along the Montana-Wyoming, Montana-South Dakota, Montana-North Dakota and Montana-Canadian borders to the Continental Divide, the point of beginning.

CLOSED AREA

That part of Montana lying west of the Continental Divide.

SAGE GROUSE

AREA 1 — September 3-October 16

Bag Limits: 3 daily. See General Regulations for possession limit.

AREA 2 — September 3-December 4

Bag Limits: 5 daily. See General Regulations for possession limit.

Means of Taking: Sage grouse may be taken in Areas 1 and 2 with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge or long bow and arrow. All other means of taking are prohibited.

SHARP-TAILED GROUSE

AREA 1 — September 3-October 16

Bag Limits: 3 daily. See General Regulations for possession limit.

AREA 2 — September 3-December 4

Bag Limits: 5 daily. See General Regulations for possession limit.

Means of Taking: Sharp-tailed grouse may be taken in Areas 1 and 2 with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge or long bow and arrow. All other means of taking are prohibited.

MOURNING DOVES—Subject to Federal approval in mid-August

STATEWIDE — September 3-October 12

Bag Limits: 15 daily and 30 in possession.

Shooting Hours: Authorized shooting hours begin one-half hour before sunrise to sunset each day of the hunting season.

Means of Taking: Doves may be taken with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge capable of holding not more than three shells, or long bow and arrow. All other means of taking are prohibited.

It is illegal to hunt by the use of baiting. It is illegal to shoot doves resting on utility lines or fixtures adjacent to those lines.

A Federal Migratory Bird Stamp is not required. A complete synopsis of regulations pertaining to migratory game birds are available from any Fish, Wildlife & Parks regional office or the Helena office (available in late August).

MOUNTAIN GROUSE

STATEWIDE — September 3-December 4

Bag Limits: 5 in aggregate daily. See General Regulations for possession limit.

Means of Taking: Blue, Ruffed and Franklin's Grouse may be taken with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge or long bow and arrow, rifle or handgun. All other means of taking are prohibited.

Note: Mountain Grouse do not occur in many areas of eastern Montana.

PARTRIDGE

STATEWIDE — September 3-December 4
Except portion of Carbon County
(September 3-January 8, 1989).

(See closures below)

Bag Limits: 8 in aggregate daily. See General Regulations for possession limit.

Means of Taking: Hungarian and Chukar Partridge may be taken with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge or long bow and arrow. All other means of taking are prohibited.

Chukar Closed Area—West of Continental Divide.

Portion of Carbon County: September 3, 1988-January 8, 1989

A portion of Carbon County within the following described boundary: Beginning at the junction of Route 397 and the Wyoming-Montana state line, then northerly along said route to Belfry, then northeasterly along Route 308 to Bridger, then northerly along Hwy. 310 to Edgar, then east on the Edgar-Pryor Road to the Crow Indian Reservation boundary, then southerly and westerly along said boundary to the west shore of Big Horn Lake, then southerly along said shore to the Wyoming-Montana state line, then west along the said state line to its junction with Route 397, the point of beginning.

RING-NECKED PHEASANT

STATEWIDE — October 15-December 4

Bag Limits: 3 cock pheasants daily. See General Regulations for possession limit.

Means of Taking: Pheasants may be taken with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge or long bow and arrow. All other means of taking are prohibited.

Transporting Pheasants: No person shall transport within the state any pheasant unless one leg remains attached to each bird at all times while being transported from the place where taken until they have arrived at the personal residence of the sportsman or commercial locker, ranch or permanent camp.

ASK FIRST!!
***to Hunt & Fish on* Private Land**

FALCONRY SEASON

STATEWIDE
Upland Game Birds (except turkey) — September 1-March 31

Bag Limits: 2 daily and 6 in possession.

Falconry Hours: One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

Mourning Doves — September 1-October 12

Bag Limits: 2 daily and 6 in possession.

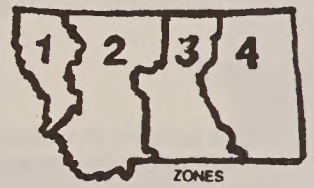
Falconry Hours: One-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

Means of Taking: All areas open to hunting of upland game birds and/or migratory game birds by firearms shall be open to either-sex hunting of that species by falconry.

A complete copy of the falconry season regulations is available at any Fish, Wildlife and Parks office.

SUNRISE-SUNSET TABLES

Tables are based on Mountain Standard Time. During periods of Daylight Savings Time, add 1 hour.



	Zone 1		Zone 2		Zone 3		Zone 4	
September	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set
1- 5	5:57	7:15	5:50	7:04	5:37	6:49	5:26	6:44
6-10	6:04	7:05	5:56	6:54	5:43	6:40	5:33	6:34
11-15	6:11	6:54	6:03	6:44	5:49	6:30	5:40	6:24
16-20	6:18	6:44	6:09	6:34	5:56	6:20	5:47	6:13
21-25	6:25	6:33	6:16	6:24	6:02	6:11	5:54	6:03
26-31	6:32	6:23	6:22	6:14	6:08	6:01	6:01	5:53
October								
1- 5	6:39	6:13	6:29	6:04	6:14	5:51	6:08	5:42
6-10	6:46	6:02	6:36	5:55	6:21	5:42	6:15	5:32
11-15	6:53	5:53	6:42	5:45	6:28	5:33	6:23	5:22
16-20	7:01	5:43	6:49	5:36	6:34	5:24	6:30	5:13
21-25	7:08	5:34	6:56	5:28	6:41	5:15	6:38	5:03
26-31	7:16	5:25	7:04	5:19	6:48	5:07	6:45	4:55
November								
1- 5	7:25	5:15	7:12	5:10	6:57	4:58	6:54	4:45
6-10	7:33	5:08	7:20	5:03	7:04	4:52	7:02	4:38
11-15	7:41	5:01	7:27	4:57	7:11	4:46	7:10	4:43
16-20	7:49	4:55	7:34	4:52	7:18	4:40	7:18	4:25
21-25	7:56	4:51	7:41	4:47	7:24	4:36	7:25	4:20
26-30	8:03	4:47	7:48	4:44	7:31	4:33	7:32	4:17
December								
1- 5	8:09	4:44	7:54	4:42	7:37	4:31	7:38	4:14
6-10	8:15	4:43	7:59	4:41	7:42	4:30	7:44	4:13
11-15	8:20	4:43	8:04	4:41	7:47	4:30	7:49	4:12
16-20	8:24	4:44	8:08	4:42	7:50	4:31	7:53	4:13
21-25	8:26	4:46	8:10	4:44	7:53	4:33	7:55	4:16
26-31	8:28	4:50	8:12	4:47	7:55	4:37	7:57	4:19
January								
1- 5	8:28	4:55	8:12	4:53	7:56	4:42	7:57	4:25
6-10	8:27	5:01	8:11	4:58	7:55	4:47	7:56	4:31
11-15	8:25	5:07	8:09	5:05	7:53	4:53	7:54	4:37
16-20	8:21	5:14	8:06	5:11	7:50	5:00	7:50	4:44
21-25	8:17	5:22	8:02	5:18	7:46	5:07	7:46	4:51
26-31	8:11	5:30	7:57	5:26	7:41	5:14	7:40	4:59

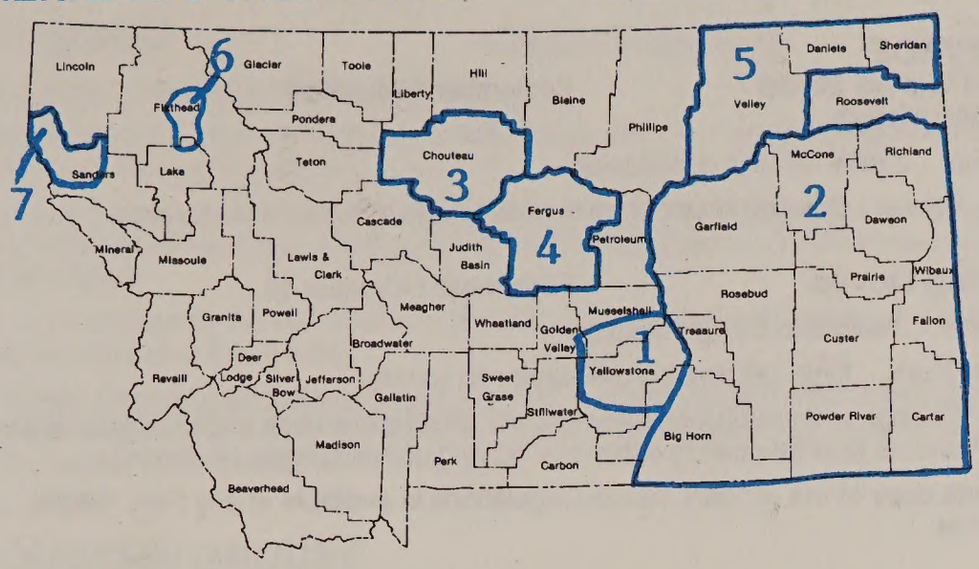
Zone 1—Flathead, Granite, Lake, Lincoln, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli and Sanders Counties.

Zone 2—Beaverhead, Broadwater, Cascade, Chouteau, Deer Lodge, Gallatin, Glacier, Hill, Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, Liberty, Madison, Meagher, Park, Pondera, Powell, Silver Bow, Teton and Toole Counties.

Zone 3—Blaine, Bighorn, Carbon, Fergus, Golden Valley, Judith Basin, Musselshell, Petroleum, Phillips, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Wheatland and Yellowstone Counties

Zone 4—Carter, Custer, Daniels, Dawson, Fallon, Garfield, McCone, Powder River, Prairie, Rosebud, Richland, Roosevelt, Sheridan, Treasure, Wibaux and Valley Counties.

MERRIAM'S WILD TURKEY — FALL SEASON



Bag Limit: One wild turkey. Sportsmen must hold a valid "FALL" season turkey license.

Tagging: Immediately after harvesting your wild turkey, cut out the proper month and day from the license (if more than one date is cut, the license is invalid) and affix to the leg of the wild turkey.

Means of Taking: Wild turkey may be taken with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge, long bow and arrow, rifle or handgun.

AREA 1

September 3-October 22 — **ARCHERY ONLY**
October 23-November 27

Those portions of Musselshell, Big Horn, Yellowstone and Golden Valley counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at Billings, then northwesterly along State Route 3 to U.S. Highway 12 north of Lavina, then east one-half mile on U.S. Highway 12 to Emory Road, then north 9.6 miles on Emory Road to Horsethief Road, then east 1.9 miles on Horsethief Road to Timber Buttes Road, then north 3.6 miles on timber Buttes Road to Golf Course Road, then east 16 miles on Golf Course Road to Roundup and U.S. Highway 12, then east along U.S. Highway 12 to Melstone, then south and southeasterly along the Melstone-Custer Road to the Yellowstone River Bridge at Custer, then easterly down the Yellowstone River to the Bighorn River, then southerly up the Bighorn River to U.S. Highway 87 at Hardin, then west and northwesterly along U.S. Highway 87 to Billings, the point of beginning.

AREA 2

September 3-November 27

Carter, Custer, Dawson, Fallon, Garfield, McCone, Powder River, Prairie, Richland, Rosebud, Treasure, and Wibaux counties in their entirety **AND** those portions of Big Horn County lying east of the Bighorn River. Note: On the Crow and Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservations, the 1988 Fall Wild Turkey Gobbler Season applies only to those lands which are owned in Fee by non-members of the Tribes.

AREA 3

October 23-November 27

Hunting by Permit Only.

Choteau County in its entirety.

A total of 25 special fall turkey either-sex permits will be issued for this area.

Applicants must submit in writing their name, address, and a $2 nonrefundable drawing fee to the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, 4600 Giant Springs Road, Great Falls, MT 59405. Applications must be postmarked by August 31, 1988, to be eligible for the drawing. Successful applicants will be notified by mail and will be required to purchase a valid fall season turkey license before hunting.

AREA 4

October 23-November 27

Fergus County in its entirety.

AREA 5

October 23-November 27

Hunting by Permit Only.

Daniels, Sheridan and Valley Counties in their entirety.

A total of 50 special fall turkey either-sex permits will be issued for this area. Applicants must submit in writing their name, address and a $2 nonrefundable drawing fee to the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Rural Route 1-4210, Glasgow, MT 59230. Applications must be postmarked by August 31, 1988 to be eligible for the drawing. Successful applicants will be notified by mail and will be required to purchase a valid fall season turkey license before hunting.

UPLAND GAME BIRD — REGULATION CHANGES

The extreme fire danger caused by the drought, resulted in the State of Montana delaying the opening of its hunting seasons. Because of these delays, several season dates have been modified. Please note the following season date changes in the 1988 Upland Game Bird Hunting Regulations.

SAGE & SHARP-TAILED GROUSE

Area 1

Season Dates: September 12 - October 23

Area 2

Season Dates: September 12 - December 11

MOUNTAIN GROUSE

Statewide

Season Dates: September 12 - December 11

PARTRIDGE

Statewide

Season Dates: September 12 - December 11

TURKEY, PHEASANT, MOURNING DOVE & FALCONRY

No change to existing regulations.

By order of the Montana Fish and Game Commission, the regulation changes affecting the season dates shall govern the 1988 upland game bird hunting season. These regulations are valid September 12, 1988 through February 28, 1989, or as specified. These regulations were adopted by the Fish and Game Commission on September 12, 1988.

AREA 6 October 23-November 27

Hunting by Permit Only—Shotgun/Archery Only.

Flathead Valley: All of Deer/Elk Hunting District 170 and that portion of Deer/Elk Hunting District 130 as follows: Beginning at the junction of U.S. Highway 2 and Montana Secondary 206 in Columbia Heights, the northeast corner of Hunting District 170, then easterly along Highway 2 to the South Fork of the Flathead River, then up the South Fork to Frank Creek, then up Frank Creek to Forest Trail 51 then up said trail to Doris Mountain on the Swan Divide, then southerly along said divide to Forest Trail 10 in Sec. 36, T26N, R18W, then southwesterly along said trail to Forest Road 9508, the Six Mile Road, then southerly on said road to State Route 83 then southerly on said route to Forest Road 10229, the Porcupine Creek Road, then westerly and southerly on said roads to south boundary of T26N, the 6th Standard Parallel North, then west along said township line to the Flathead Indian Reservation Boundary, then north and west along said boundary to the east shore of Flathead Lake, then north along said shore to the Swan River, then easterly along the south shore of said river to the State Route 35 bridge, then north across said bridge to the southeast corner of HD 170.

A total of 50 special fall turkey either-sex permits will be issued for this area. Applicants must submit in writing their name, address and a $2 nonrefundable drawing fee to the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, P.O. Box 67, Kalispell, MT 59901. Applications must be postmarked by August 31, 1988 to be eligible for the drawing. Successful applicants will be notified by mail and will be required to purchase a valid fall season turkey license before hunting.

AREA 7 October 23-November 27

Hunting by Permit Only—Shotgun/Archery Only.

West Clark Fork: That portion of Sanders County lying within the following described boundary: Beginning where the Sanders-Mineral County line meets the Idaho border, then easterly along said county line to Greenwood Hill, then northerly along the divide to Penrose Peak, Cherry Peak and Eddy Mountain, then northwesterly down ridge to Clark Fork River and mouth of Thompson River, then northeasterly up the Thompson River to the West Fork of the Thompson River, then up the West Fork to Four Lakes Creek, then westerly up said creek to the North Fork of Four Lakes Creek, then northwesterly up the North Fork to Forest Road 7671 and Trail 437, then westerly up said trail to Trail 450, then northerly on said trail to Mt. Headley, then northerly along the divide between Graves Creek and West Fork of Fishtrap Creek to the Vermillion River Divide, then northerly along the Vermillion-Thompson River Divide to the Sanders-Lincoln County line, then westerly along said county line to the Idaho border, then south and southeasterly along said border to the Sanders-Mineral County line, the point of beginning.

A total of 50 special fall turkey either-sex permits will be issued for this area. Applicants must submit in writing their name, address and a $2 nonrefundable drawing fee to the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, P.O. Box 67, Kalispell, MT 59901. Applications must be postmarked by August 31, 1988 to be eligible for the drawing. Successful applicants will be notified by mail and will be required to purchase a valid fall season turkey license before hunting.

CLOSED AREAS

State Game Preserves, closures, and National Parks shall remain closed to hunting of upland game birds. For hunting privileges on Indian Reservations and Federal Wildlife Refuges, inquire at the local Indian Agency or Refuge office.

Flathead County: Closed to upland game bird hunting. Beginning where the west access road to the Flathead Lake Waterfowl Production Area enters said area in the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter, Section 24, T27N, R21W, approximately one-half (1/2) mile east of the town of Somers, then east-northeast along fence marking U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service property as posted to the west property line of the Dedman ownership in the west half of Section 20, T27N, R20W, then south along said line fence as posted to the north shore of Flathead Lake, then south and westerly approximately one and three-quarters (1 3/4) miles as posted to a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ownership sign in the north half of the north half of Section 25, T27N, R32W, then northerly along west property line of said Waterfowl Production Area to the point of beginning.

Freezout Game Management Area (Teton County): Open to upland game bird hunting until the opening of the waterfowl season, then it will be closed to all hunting. SW1/4, Section 19, Sections 29 and 30, T22N, R3W, W1/2 Section 12, W1/2 of E1/2 Section 12, and that portion of Sections 13 and 24 within the posted boundary of the Freezout Game Management Area, T22N, R4W.

Helena Valley Regulating Reservoir (Lewis and Clark County): Open to upland game bird hunting until the opening of the waterfowl season, then it will be closed to all hunting. The Bureau of Reclamation Regulating Reservoir located in Section 8, T10N, R2W in the Helena Valley, as posted.